

JOHN KUAKINI LINDSEY

THE WATUMULI FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

John Kuakini Lindsey

(1892 -)

Kuakini, as everyone calls the old cowboy, was born and raised in Waimea on the Island of Hawaii and has lived there all his life. He had been a cowboy for more than half a century when he retired in 1965.

After attending Kamehameha School, he was employed by Alfred W. Carter, manager of Parker Ranch. He married Mary Ann Lincoln and had nine children. During World War I he served as an orderly for Commander Ingram Macklin Stainback, who later became Hawaii's governor.

His father, John Kawanānakoā Lindsey, was the foreman at Parker Ranch for many years.

In this interview, Kuakini discusses his family history and his own experiences as a cowboy in the dialect known as pidgin English with a Hawaiian accent. His speech pattern and pronunciation have been retained in transcription as closely and carefully as possible.

Katherine B. Allen, Interviewer

© 1979 The Watumull Foundation, Oral History Project
2051 Young Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96826

All rights reserved. This transcript, or any part thereof, may not be reproduced in any form without the permission of the Watumull Foundation.

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN KUAKINI LINDSEY

At King's Donut Shop, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

July 9, 1971

K: John Kuakini Lindsey (called Kuakini by everyone)

A: Kathy Allen, Interviewer

K: . . . I say I go check up.

A: Yeh. Well, I looked all over (for Kuakini Lindsey before I found him talking to someone next to Saint James Episcopal Church in Kamuela, recognizing him by a description of him given to me by the woman who operates Cost Less). Do you want a donut?

K: How about you?

A: Yeh. I think so. (so I bought us coffee and donuts) Why don't we start with your father's name. What was your father's name?

K: John.

A: What was your grandfather's name?

K: William. [William Miller Seymour Lindsey]

A: William. And who did William marry? Do you remember?

K: Mmm. Kaluna. [Henrietta Kaluna Kainapau]

A: Kaluna? What was her first name?

K: I don't know the first name. Kaluna we call um already. Kuku Kaluna we call um alla time.

A: Kuku. K-U-K-U.

K: Yeah, yeah.

A: Father is John Senior.

K: Yeah, my father is John. [John Kawananakoa Lindsey]

A: And he married--what was your mother's name?

K: She's a Purdy girl. [Grace] Keohu Purdy.

A: On her side, is she descended from Harry Purdy?

K: Her side?

A: Yeh.

K: Keohu. Keohu. Her side is Parker girl.

A: Parker girl.

K: Anna Waipa. Anna Waipa da mother. Mother of Keohu.

A: I see. What was her father's name?

K: William.

A: William Purdy.

K: Then he had lotta brudder, eh, and like dat. Uncle Ikua
champion roper of the world. He went to Cheyenne with
Eben Low and them.

A: Oh.

K: Yeh, Ikua Purdy.

A: Ikua.

K: Yeh.

END OF SIDE 1/1ST TAPE

K: . . . Jack Low and them they all mixed up together. Jim
Low.

A: Jim Low?

K: Yeh, he stay in Hilo. Policeman.

A: Yes.

K: Sam Pua and them. Sam Kauhane--those old time. . . . Sam
Spencer. And Billy Beers.

A: Oh, yeh, I remember. Billy Beers. Okay. Now let's talk

about your family. Yeh, go ahead. Tell about the . . . 1908.

K: Thas Ikua Purdy. In 1908 won the world's champion.

A: World champion what?

K: Roping. Roping in Cheyenne. Roping big steer, uh, tie up. He went with Jack Low, Eben Low and Archie Kaaua. All in the family. They all family, you know.

A: Yes. I tell you, this whole island is related.

K: Yeh, yeh. The Low is family to us. Through my mother's mother. My grandmother, Anna, was a Waipa. Thas Ikua Purdy's mother. Ikua Purdy and my mother.

A: Oh boy. Ikua Purdy. There were . . .

K: Ikua Purdy's side had--wait, wait, I count first. Ikua, Sam Purdy, Harry Purdy --that's three--Keonona, my mother Grace . . .

A: Your mother was Grace.

K: Yeh, married to the Lindsey, my father's side.

A: John--your father, John Senior--married . . .

K: Keohu Purdy.

A: And then her name was Grace also. Grace Keohu Purdy.

K: Yeh, yeh, yeh. Then my mother had plenty brudder too. She had--wait, wait--Ikua, Sam, Harry, Keala; and the sister was Mary, Keonona married Archie Hapai.

A: Who married Archie Hapai?

K: Keonona. Married our county clerk before, eh. Archie Hapai. You remember Archie Hapai, yeh?

A: Yes. So there're how many children? You said one, two, three, four, five, six, so far. Six children in this Purdy family. Ikua Purdy, Sam, Harry, Mary, Keala, Keonona. Any more in that family?

K: Wait, wait. You get Grace too in there?

A: Yes. That Grace is your mother.

K: Sam Purdy. You get Sam?

A: Sam.

K: Harry. Robert.

A: Is that Harry Junior? Harry Purdy Junior?

K: No.

A: Just Harry.

K: You get Robert?

A: No. No Robert yet.

K: Yeh. They call it Hawaiian name, Keala.

A: Keala.

K: Yeh. He was working for the Hawaiian Electric light in Honolulu. He died. He died. All died. Only me more living.

A: Oh, really?

K: Yeh. All Purdys.

A: Sam gone too?

K: He gone. Ikua gone.

A: Your mother?

K: Mother gone. Grace gone. Mrs. Hapai gone. All gone. No more Purdy.

A: No more Purdy?

K: No more. Only one more Purdy left I know. John Purdy. He's outside of my family. He's kine not too close with me.

A: And he's the only Purdy left in that family?

K: Yeh, yeh. He live below here. Below this place. He live right below here.

A: Ohhh. I'll have to go try and find him, I guess, then. Only John Purdy is left. You mean descended from the original Harry Purdy?

K: This not from our--my--family but different family.

A: Different Purdy family.

K: Huh, plenty work, eh?

A: I know. You don't know how it's all complicated. Now, did you ever marry?

K: Yeh. I marry to Lincoln girl. Bill Lincoln's sister. You know Bill Lincoln, eh, the singer.

A: Yes.

K: Yeh. I married to Mary Ann Lincoln. I had nine children. She died.

A: Your wife died?

K: Yeh, my wife died; then one of my boy died, Lincoln. Lincoln Lindsey.

A: All right, now would you please name your children. Lincoln. Okay, next one is what?

K: Next one Sarah--Mrs. Richard Taga. Then comes Eva--post office. She's the boss at the post office--Eva Kealamakia. How you spell 'at?

A: I have it.

K: Oh, you have it?

A: K-E-A-L-A-M-A-K-I-A.

K: Yeh, yeh, yeh. How did you get that? From Eva?

A: From Hannah Lindsey. She's the one that told me about you.

K: Yeh, yeh.

A: Eva. What's her husband's first name?

K: Moke. Moke. Moses Kealamakia. I don't know how to spell that name.

A: That's three so far. Lincoln, Sarah, Eva.

K: You get Lincoln there?

A: Yes.

K: Lincoln. Three. Then you get Arthur. Still living. Yeh, he's not married. Then come ah . . .

A: All right. Is Sarah living?

K: Yeh, they all living. Then come my other son, Martin, not married too. He's away mainland. Engineer on da boat. Then come Grace. Grace in Schofield [Barracks] married a Spenser from Maui.

A: Which Spenser? [Aloysius]

K: Maui. Maui Spenser. But you spell different way, though. Not S-P-E-N. . . . I don't know . . .

A: S-E-R instead of C-E-R.

K: Eh, eh, eh, eh, eh.

A: What's his first name? What's your son-in-law's name?

K: I don't know the first name. I only know we call him Spenser.

A: Okay. That's six. Now we have three more to go.

K: Six. Six. Oh, then I have Irene married to Fergerstrom. Irene married to Harry Fergerstrom. Da guy like the police chief of Hilo [who has the same last name].

A: Fergerstrom.

K: Yeh, yeh.

A: What's Fergerstrom's first name?

K: Harry. He work for the state.

A: Uh huh. Okay, next one.

K: 'As how many now?

A: That's seven.

K: Two more?

A: Yeh.

K: Two more. Well, I give you Abigail. Abigail. She's in Honolulu. She married Akiu.

- A: Akiu? First name.
- K: Yeh, Akiu. I don't know who the first name [Paul] but we call him Akiu.
- A: Okay.
- K: Akiu. One more, eh?
- A: Yes. One more.
- K: Oh, yeh. She work in the drug store. Ella, my baby, she's the last. She married Kimura from Waimea. Sam Kimura. They both from Waimea. Here they married.
- A: How many grandchildren do you have?
- K: Hmmm. Twenty-six.
- A: Hahahaha. I don't think we'll go into the twenty-six grandchildren.
- K: Yeh, yeh. Twenty-six.
- A: But tell me . . .
- (the proprietor of the shop asks, "May I ask you what this is for?")
- A: Yes. The Watumull Foundation sent me to interview all the old-timers. It's going to be a book.
- (Proprietor: You've got one right there, boy. He's one of the real old-timers. Has he told you the history of his family? How they first started. . . ?)
- A: I want to hear that. As soon as I get this all straightened out. All right.
- K: 'As nine, heh, nine.
- A: That is right. Now we have the nine pau. Your wife . . .
- K: Mary Ann Lincoln.
- A: Bill Lincoln's sister. But who's her father?
- K: Lincoln too but Lawrence. Lawrence Lincoln.
- A: Lawrence.

K: Yeh. He was head cowboy on Puuhue side when the Wood had da Puuhue Ranch.

A: Puuhue Ranch?

K: Yeh. Next to Kahua. Born and raised there.

A: Okay. Now, tell about your family's history--how you came --how you all got here, now.

K: How we came?

A: Umhum.

K: Well, my grandfolks--my grandfather [Thomas Weston Lindsey] came from England. Two Lindsey--no, one Lindsey came here. He met a Hawaiian girl in Honolulu. Those days, the laws, no can marry in Honolulu. So he get a boat. He went outside three miles Diamond Head, he marry this Hawaiian girl.

A: Smart.

K: Yeh, he know.

(Proprietor: You go ahead, John. Just keep talking, see. Get it all on there and answer the questions. Tell her the whole story.)

Yeh, yeh, yeh. He married this woman. All right. He got sick. He stay one year. He got sick. He went back England. He tell da youngest brudda, "You go back Hawaii, marry da wife." All right. When da youngest brudda came back--he know he goin' die, our grandfather--when the youngest brudda got here, already get one baby from the oldest brudda. William. They call him William. That's my grandfather now. William. He raise all this Lindsey family. [William Miller Seymour Lindsey]

A: What is the first one's name? The old one? [Thomas Weston Lindsey who married Mary Fay on September 1, 1846]

(Proprietor: The first one who come, John. Who married a Hawaiian girl. What's his, your great-grandfather?)

K: Chee (a variation of gee). Yeh, yeh. I gave you (the proprietor) da papah.

(Proprietor: I gave it back to you. You have it.)

Oh yeh, yeh, yeh.

A: You have a paper about it?

K: Oh, I gave to my sistah.

(Proprietor: There's a sheet that someone has gotten together on the history of the Lindsey family which lists all the genealogy right from the start. I was just trying to say you should have a copy. Who has it? Your daughter has a copy of this, heh, Kuakini?)

Yeh, and my odda sistah, Mrs. Kimura. I gave mine to Mrs. Kimura.

(Proprietor: Why don't you ask her if you can borrow it, give it to this lady and then she can make a copy and she give it back to you?)

Yeh.

A: If I could just get a copy of that, that would help.

(Proprietor: It lists the whole thing. It would answer so many of your questions.)

K: I guess, you got time, we run down my sistah's place.

A: Okay. After we're through. But first I want a little bit more of the history. When the young boy came--the youngest brother came--then they . . .

K: Married.

A: Then he married this . . .

K: And he get all this Lindsey. 'As ah Tom Lindsey, Edward Lindsey, Jim Fay Lindsey, William Lindsey, John Lindsey, dat Mrs. Chillingworth, den Mrs. Deverill, Mrs. Sanborn.

A: All of these?

K: Yeh, all from the second brudda [George Kyngston Lindsey].

A: You don't remember--you remember the second brother's name?

K: Oh, I get um in . . .

A: Yeh, okay.

K: I don't know if my sistah stay home. I tink she still home yet. She gotta--I lend her but she never return, huh.

I never know dis ting would be happen like dis.

A: I didn't think I'd ever run you down--find you. So, then what was your great-grandfather, though? What did he do?

K: He was a cowboy. [Thomas Weston Lindsey was a sea captain.]

A: Did he come here--right to this island?

K: No, no, no. William [Miller Seymour Lindsey], who is my grandfather.

A: William, your grandfather. Where did the other ones--did he stay over on Oahu? The first one who came?

K: He stay here. Stay on the island here (Hawaii).

A: He was a cowboy.

K: Yeh. Second brudda, same ting. Second brudda, he have plenty children.

A: Yeh. You were naming all the children that . . .

K: Yeh, yeh, yeh. But on our side, only one, William, my grandfather. From da oldest brudda. Only one. Den he [Thomas Weston Lindsey] went back England and he say he goin' die, tell da youngest brudda come back, marry da same wife [Mary Fay Lindsey], nine children.

A: So that, William was the only one, the first one. First child by. . . . Okay.

Now, can you tell me some of the things that you remember about your family life way in the past? Remember? With your father and mother and your brothers and sisters. Can you remember your life in Hawaii then?

K: Well, when I was a young boy--nine year old, I tink; nine or ten--Alfred Carter send me to Kamehameha School. [His pronunciation of Carter is Cahtah.] He was our manager here dat time. Before Alfred Carter was Paul Jarrett. Dās during Sam Parker's time. Paul Jarrett. Bymby, Mr. Carter--they appoint him guardian for Richard Smart's mother, Thelma. So, Mr. Carter run the ranch. He put all dis pipeline here from top till top Mauna Kea. Mr. Carter no want . . .

A: That saved the ranch, didn't it?

K: Yeh. If not heem, no mo' ranch today. Mr. Carter the one.

The old man, not Hartwell Carter. The old man. He did da--he put . . .

A: Hartwell's his son? [Alfred] Hartwell's the son of A. W.?

K: Yeh, yeh. Then, well, those days, the Lindsey was staying here. Bymby they get tire this place. I remember, three Lindsey start to move--move Maui. Edward--he went work for Baldwin. Sam--went work for Baldwin too. Robert was a smart--became the sheriff of Lahaina. Then he raise his family. I never see all his family yet.

A: Are there still some on Maui?

K: Yeh, yeh. Plenty in Maui. Never see um. I met da daughter, Mary--was a school teacher. Just before Fourth of July, came see me. Mary. Came to stay with me. Plenty. See, I never met that boy singing dat "Blue Darling." 'As a Lindsey boy too. Come in a record, every time he sing on the gramophone. "Blue Darling," uh? 'As Lindsey boy.

A: "Blue Darling."

K: 'As a Lindsey boy. But I know his fadda, Robert--Robert Junior. I didn't see all da family.

A: Well, when they moved to the other island you lost track of them.

K: Yeh, lost track.

A: How about your own family? There were quite a few.

K: I get nine. Nine children.

A: You have nine but in your own family with, you know, your brothers and sisters.

K: Yeh, my sistah. My sistah is Mrs. Sims. S-I-M-S. Sims. Annie Sims. She used to work for da children down Kaneohe. She retired. Take care of those bad children, eh? What you call dat place? [Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, Kailua, Oahu]

A: Where? On Oahu?

K: Yeh. Before. Den he got pension. He's old now. Den my odda sistah, Mary--Mary Kempster. How you spell that name? She's in the hospital now. Not very good. Hilo Memorial Hospital.

A: Oh?

K: Sometime I go see. Sometime she talk way off.

A: Mary--say it again.

K: Kempster. I don't know how you spell dat name.

A: What's her husband's first name?

K: Husband die. All make [Hawaiian; make means dead].
Annie's husband die too. George Sims die. He used to be
in Hilo. They used to live in Hilo before. I don't know.
Maybe you know him. He used to work for the county clerk
in Hilo. George Sims.

A: Sounds--that name is familiar.

K: Yeh, yeh, he used to work in Hilo long time.

A: Now I want to be clear on this. These--Ikua, Sam, Mary,
Harry, Keala, Keonona--those are all children of William
. . .

K: William and Anna Purdy. She's a Waipa but married to
Purdy. Purdy da name. They were Parker [lineage] girls
that married to William Purdy. Only three sistah. My
grandmother had. Anna. No only two--Anna--well, thas my
side--then Kekapa is Eben Low side. Then Kalili, no more
children. Kekapa is--come Eben Low's side.

A: Wait a minute. I have to go and get something (the Parker
family genealogy). I want to hear more about your own ex-
periences as a cowboy and Parker Ranch . . .

K: Ohhh. Cowboy? Oh. Yeh, after I came back from Kamehame-
ha School, 1913--'13, '14--I went in the First World War,
1915. First World War--no, 1918. Well, 1913 I came back.
Mr. Carter put me up Makalahao, take care da purebred cat-
tle up dere. Whew. For ten year. Stay up at the mountain
too. And my children was raise up dere. Den Mr. Carter
say, "By golly, you gotta go back Waimea. Your children
gotta go school." Das Eva, Martin, Lincoln, and all. I
say, "Aw right." Den Mr. Carter bought me piece of land
down heah. From da government. So Parkah Ranch build for
me da house. I have to pay little by little what I get
till I own today the place.

A: Good.

K: Den, I work as a cowboy all my life. My faddah was head

foreman. Den I work under my faddah. Cowboy. All--till my faddah pass away. Somebody else took ovah da place. Den I move down heah from Makalahao. Gettin' too mucha dat purebred cattle, eh? Mr. Carter no like keep no mo' record. He say, "You move down Waimea with two thousand head of purebred cattle. Turn 'em out all. Only keep fifty." Makalahao, that's what dey usin' now. Make pedigreed. Dat two thousand too much humbug. Leggo. Poho nuf foh one. Den I came back down here, work as a cowboy, all my life till I have a pension.

A: Ah, what about being a cowboy do you like the best? You like being a cowboy, there's no question about that.

K: Yeh. Yeh.

A: But what's the best part of being a cowboy?

K: Oh, you've gotta know helluva lot. You gotta know all da country. All the land you gotta know where's the gate and all fence up, you know.

A: Yes.

K: All fence up. All da paddock get name. Three hundred paddock Parker Ranch get. You gotta know every one. Me, I know every one from here till Humuula. Humuula we get plenty too. Thas Hawaiian Homes. Pretty soon pau da lease, I tink. I know all the paddock up Humuula. Every one. Even ovah heah too. Nobody can fool me.

A: You have to know the land . . .

K: Yeh, you haf to know da gate and everyting. I use to stay Keamoku. Den Mr. Carter, when he bought Kahuku Ranch--he bought Kahuku Ranch from, ah--wait, wait, wait. Yeh, yeh, he bought Kahuku Ranch from Charlie Macomber and Charlie Macomber got the ranch, dollah and lowah, from Colonel Norris. Da Kahuku Ranch. And Charlie Macomber--I mean Colonel Norris, no moah family. So, he gave Charlie Macomber dollah and lowah for da ranch. He had Sam Kauhane, Willy Beers, and all witness for dat. Den Mr. Carter sent me ova dere. He bought Kahuku Ranch from Charlie Macomber.

A: Is that Maui, Kahuku Ranch, or here?

K: Kau. Where Fred Rice staying now. So Mr. Carter send me owa deah--take care. Riding horse. Took me three days go. Doze days ona horse. An' we were drivin' or walkin' all about forty--no, sixty-six, I tink--ride on da land. We all goin' owa deah--me, Uncle Jim, Dick Kauai, Waiau, and

one moah--Japanee--and Sam Kailua. All go deah. We got deah. Dese boys, dey don't know I had dat money in heah (pointing to his shirt pocket), dat \$100,000. I no tell nobody got. Doze days no moah--what you call mail carrier, doze day, eh? Gotta keep quiet. I no tell dem I gotta \$100,000 heah. First night, we sleep Kealakakua. Second night, we sleep Kalahi (phonetic). Da terd night, I arrive Kau. When I arrive, I met Charlie Macomber: "Heah, I pau pilikia now, huh? I hand owa to you dis \$100,000."

A: Oh, you were a really trusted person.

K: I no tell my workin' men I get inside. So I stay Kahuku--oh, ahhh, tree year, I tink. No can make a go. Too much pahoeheo and no good land. And Shipman had da contract, catching da wild cattle, for five years. Shipman, Sam Kauhane and dem. Oh, I got deah--ahhh--we plant corn. No can make a go, dat ranch. So I told Mr. Carter, "Can not make a go heah. Too much 'a'a--volcano--how you goin' make da fence and make da pipi [steer]?" So Mr. Carter sold to Glover--\$300,000. Glover. Glover couldn't make a go, sold to Damon. Damon own now.

A: Sam Damon.

K: Yeh, yeh, I tink Sam Damon. Alla family. Das where Fred Rice staying. You met Fred Rice, eh?

A: I don't think so. Not yet. Not yet.

K: You know da grandfathah?

A: I know the family. I know the name. But I haven't met him.

K: Yeh, yeh.

A: So then after Kahuku?

K: An' 1915, Mr. Carter took me mainland. The old man, old man. Alfred Carter. Stay mainland. 'As a first time we evah see dat fella, Aht Smith. You know, he make somersalt, eh? Wid da airplane. I tink you heard, eh?

A: Al Smith? Art. Art Smith?

K: Yeh, yeh. Dey call him Aht--Art Smith. Yeh, he make somersalt. But Mr. Carter tell me; he tell Hawaiian--he smaht talk Hawaiian, you know, Mr. Carter: "Oh, haole pupule. Bymby fall down make (dead)." He make upside down, eh? Mr. Carter say, "Haole pupule." I went . . .

A: Where was that?

K: San Francisco. Dat time dey opened da fair, eh? Da first fair dey had [the Panama-Pacific International Exposition]. And Mr. Carter took me and I stay wid him at Belleview Hotel. For tree weeks, den we came back. Den 1918, ah, gotta go ina wah.

A: Oh, you went to the war?

K: Yeh, Firs' World War.

A: All right. Where did you go in the war?

K: Well, firs' we went in Schofield [Barracks]. We stayed dere; we didn't go to the war. Then, pau the war. I was undah--I didn't know he was goin' come govanah--Stainback. [Ingram Macklin Stainback, governor of Hawaii, 1942-51.] I was orderly for him.

A: Oh, how about that.

K: Bymby he came our governor of Hawaii. Den he come Waimea see me alla time. He use to tell Mr. Carter, "This is my orderly, Mr. Lindsey." Yeh.

A: When were you born?

K: 1892.

A: What month?

K: August 14.

A: August 14, 1892. Where were you born, here? Waimea?

K: Yeh. Born and raise here.

A: Okay. Now, go on with your wartime experiences. What else happened when you were in the war?

K: Aftah the war, I came back. 'As when my wife hadda birth. First chile was Sarah. I was supprised, the day I get heah, the next day she gave birth. My firs' kid. Huh, beautiful. Den I start work Parker Ranch till today. Know every inch dis place. All up heah. You tell me da name, I know all da mountain, all dis side, all da paddock I know--three hundred paddock--I know um all. Humuula side, I know all. Kealakekua side, I know um all. Humuula side, I know all. No moah men around here beat me. Only me moah left. Dis young generation, dey no care to

learn. You know, new idea now not like befoah. Da slow. Now, everyting fast. Chuk! Chuk! Before you have to drive the cattle. We use to drive down Kawaihae. Two hundred head. We leave here one o'clock in da morning wid da fat steer. By evening time, we take um three miles from heah.

A: Down to Kawaihae.

K: Yeh. There's a fence down heah. Lock um up night time. Coffee two o'clock in da morning. Den we haf to ship--ina watah ona horse--rope ina pen. I did dat. Coupla time.

A: Yes. And then they lift them up to the boat with a girding. They lift them onto the boat.

K: Yeh, yeh. Yeh, yeh. Then they hoist um . . .

END OF SIDE 2/1ST TAPE

K: . . . all depend. Seven on dis side; seven on da odda side. When ready dey pull um down da steamah--Humuula. Humuula, use to call. Get down dere dey put da rope undah da opu, eh? Hoist um up. Hoist um up. And take us coupla houah shipping the cattle. Hew.

A: Big job in those days.

K: Yeh. Doze day, oh, hard life. And small pay too. Not like nowadays. But . . .

A: Well, what was your pay, then, in those days--just for interest's sake?

K: Seventy-five dollah a month.

A: Seventy-five dollars a month. Until what year?

K: Hewww.

A: All the time?

K: No, no. Aftah dat, my pay came way up high. At doze day everyting poor but kau kau (food) cheap.

A: That's right.

K: We get da beef free from Parker Ranch. You get da poi like dat big. The poi before, I tink you remember, big bag poi from Waipio. Akiu, every Tuesday he bring up, den I have one poi--ah--dey send Makalahao when I was staying

up dere. Stay up dere wid my whole family. And da wagon always come up, eh? Bring our food. Bring hay. Barley for foal--one we keeping in the stable, huh? Imported. Da bes' kine. We keep in da stable. Feed um.

A: Okay. You go ahead. Anything else you can think of?

K: Well, I came back. Stay here. Go cowboy. All my life. Den we had a horse race. We use to race horse. Makalahao. We were Makalahao team. Come down Waimea, challenge da Waimea cowboy. One time we beat da relay. I run against my faddah. My faddah was riding for da cowboy. I was at Makalahao, so. Dey beat us coupla time. We lost.

A: They were just a little too fast.

K: Yeh. Cowboy was good. Gooood ropah, doze day.

A: Now, what can you remember about the Hawaiian customs? You know, some of the old Hawaiian customs. Do you remember some of those? What were some of the customs that you used to have? I noticed in front of your daughter's house a stone basin that has water in it.

K: Yeh, yeh.

A: What is that for? What is that used for? Is that to clean yourself before you go into the house or to bless yourself with or what?

K: Yeh, yeh.

A: Is that what it is?

K: Yeh.

A: Like a holy water font.

K: Yeh, yeh. But now we don't use that, now.

A: But she has water in it.

K: Yeh, yeh. I don't know why. Maybe she like wanna keep it.

A: But that used to--but that's what it was? In the past days, they used to have that sacred water.

K: Yeh. Cowboy all my life. Till now.

A: When did you retire?

K: 1965.

A: 1965. But you're still a cowboy. You'll always be a cowboy.

K: Yeh. Still yet. When they need help, I used to go. And then [Richard] Penhallow came manager, I was retired. He came up the ranch, get me. He came up the ranch. He telephoned up the ranch, "Eh!" I have telephone up my ranch. I have three hundred acres. Dis Hawaiian Home kine, eh. You remember. He came up. "Ohhh. Dis Penhallow. I'm coming up. You have horse?" "Yeah. I get Sparkling. Sparkling still in da pen." "I'm coming up." Thas Penhallow. Buh he come up. Ahhh. Saddle. I saddle for heem. I tole him, "I get saddle, everyting. Doan need bring your saddle. You ride Sparkling. And I'll ride Callico."

Den I ask him, "Where we going? Are we going Pokanaka Two here?" Thas Parker Ranch land, eh. He like test da pipi. Ah we went look, look, look. I say, "Dis one ah da best paddock, Mr. Penhallow, for cow with calf. Plenty grass. Plenty grass for da calf and give da cow plenty milk too. Thas Pokanaka Two." "I wanna look."

Bymby we came home, my daughtah Irene she already cook. We told Penhallow, "How about having lunch with us?" And he said No, he gotta go home. And he tell me, "You know why I came up here for?" "No, I dunno." "I want you come back. After I pau pension, I want you come back." I tole him, "Let me tink it owa first. All right, I let you know one week time." He said, "Too long. About three days." So, all right, tree days. So I went inside. My daughter tole me--Irene--"Boy, Penhallow came up." "Oh, we went look the pipi. He know I know all this cattle, eh?" I tole Irene, "He want me come back on da ranch." "After you pension already?" "Leggo da pension. I go back. Help him." So in tree days I let him know. I tole him, "I come back." I work with him till today.

When he retired here [from Parker Ranch], he went Kukaiaiu Ranch. He took me along. Stay da same house, eat da same place on da table, drink da highball and sleep togetha.

A: Kukaiaiu Ranch, now. Who owns that? Kukaiaiu?

K: T. H. Davies Company. 'As Greenwell ova dere now. After Penhallow got sick--he had a stroke, you know--he appoint Greenwell.

A: Sherwood Greenwell? Sherwood? Or . . .

K: No, no, no. Norman.

A: Norman Greenwell. Is that Sherwood's brother or related, I guess?

K: I don't tink so. I don't tink so. So dere I stay till Penhallow retire and I went back wi' him at Kukaiau. I go ova dere, he make da odda boss work undah me. Da odda cowboy foreman, Louie Correa. But dey no get mad.

A: Well, you're an old-timer, after all; you knew your business too.

K: Yeh, yeh. I tell you one story. Da odda side--Kopiau, dey call. Penhallow tell me, "You take charge today. Kopiau." So I went see Louie. "Louie, no bad feeling, eh? You supposed to be da head foreman here but Penhallow tole me take charge." "No, no, no. No bad feeling. No, no. I no like be boss alla time. Headache. All responsible on you. Auwe." And I tole all dese boys--twelve of dem--we goin' huli Kopiau. Go early in da morning. Da order from Penhallow: "Nobody allowed chase pig." Plenty pigs, dat place. Fat, too. Well, we went Kopiau. I been set da map. I tole Louie, "Dat okay wid you? No bad feeling, you?" "Naw. Okay. You run it, Mr. Lindsey." "All right."

Me, William Andrade, and some moah odda fella--oh boy, we sweat. Bymby we come down, put in da corral, I tell Louie, "Jeee. Too much short. Fourteen short, da pipi. Moah bettah we go back look. Where's William? William Andrade?" "Not come. Nevah come yet." So we went back. By god, aftah you tell him no chase pig, he catch. He chase pig. He went tie him up. I say, "Ehhh! You know bettah. I been tell you no chase pig. 'As owdah from Penhallow. What you goin' do widda pig?" "Oh, to-night I come get." "Look out. Bymby Penhallow fire you out aftah he tell you no chase pig workin' time." But we all keep quiet. I tole da boys, "Shhhhh. I no like bad feeling for dis man." Penhallow . . . (a noisy truck goes by)

A: Penhallow what?

K: Penhallow, he don't know.

A: Oh, he doesn't know to this day.

K: Yeah.

A: Well, he won't hear this so . . .

K: No chase pig.

A: During their working hours.

K: Yeh, yeh. Working hour.

A: Take time from their work.

K: Moran. William Moran. Well, he was making business. He ketch alla wild pig. He make jerk, eh, and he sell out. Sell out jerk [jerky]--pig. Taste good.

A: Yeah. Sure, oh boy, kalua pig.

K: Yeh, yeh, yeh. Very good. Yeah, 'as da las' I work then. I help Parker Ranch sometime. They need help. They get new boss now.

A: Who's their boss now up there?

K: Not too long. Came from Arizona. Mr. Lent.

A: Mr. Lent.

K: L-E-N-T. I met um. You know, I get five--five daughtah, all big. Nice people. I tole him, "Need any help, I willing to help."

A: Well, let's see now. Still trying to think back on some Hawaiian customs that you remember.

K: I don't remember. I been cowboy all my life. Nevah go around much. Only I went mainland with Mr. Carter. I took a trip in mainland again 1962.

A: Where did you go that time?

K: State of Arizona and Nevada. Nevada, plenty gamble ova dere.

A: Yeah, I should say.

K: San Francisco.

(Proprietor: Kuakini, tell the lady about Bing Crosby offering you a job.)

Yeah, Bing Crosby offer me job.

A: What kind of job did he offer you?

K: Cowboy. Take care da cattle. I went to his ranch.

A: Where's his ranch up there?

- K: San Francisco. He offer me da job.
- A: Do you want a cigarette?
- K: No, I don't smoke. But I didn't like stay up dere, see. I no wanna stay. Only me da Hawaiian boy, might catch hell wid da odda men.
- A: Well, you probably got homesick--homesick for the Islands when you were up there.
- K: Yeh.
- A: Anything else? Any other interesting people that you met or. . . ?
- K: I met lotta people in the mainland. Get plenty pickcha at home. You know, where I went. You like see those pick-cha?
- A: After we go to your sister's maybe.
- K: Yeh, we run down my house get da pickcha an' you can look all name behin'--all state I went an' dis an' dat--all, dey right behind. And you can send back to me.
- A: Oh, I wouldn't want to take them away from you.
- K: No, no. It's all right. I don't look anymore.
- A: Oh well, you might want to. I can always just--if you could remember the names, okay. But that's not so important as your own experiences with you and your family and people around here. That's more important, I think.
- K: World War II, dey were using all dese places down da stable, down heah. You know, da World War II.
- A: Yes.
- K: All how many tousand marine were here.
- A: They were using these places.
- K: Yeh. Dey use da stable, dey use down heah, da whole lot. I don't know how many tousand was staying down dere where da hotel is now, just below da garage. Dey were using dat place. Charlie Lindsey's place.
- A: Camping there?

K: Yeh. Camp dere, everyting.

A: That's First World War or Second World War?

K: Second. First World War, I went.

A: Yeh. Second one, you didn't go.

K: Commanding officer was Stainback. I didn't know he came govanah aftah dat.

(Proprietor: Kuakini, tell the lady when you take the horses down to Kau many years ago.)

Yeah, I tole.

A: Yes, he did, about going to Kawaihae, taking them down to Kawaihae; and also going to Kau--three days. It took three days. Had to stop two different places.

K: First ting we got deah, da carpentah busy build house for Mr. Carter. Big house. 'As da house Fred Low staying now. Fred Rice.

A: Fred Rice stays in the old Carter home.

K: Yeh. Took me tree days going. Oh, I tole you already.

A: Yeh. That's right. Anything else like that you can think of?

K: We use rope cattle nighttime at Keamoku side. We wait moonlight. Dey come down steal watah. You see da plenty wild cattle up Keamoku doze day. Dey come down steal watah, well, we go stay ova dere. No go wheah da wind is. If da wind catch a smell, dey no come down.

A: Uh huh.

K: We always hide. Den we rope, nighttime. At Keamoku. My faddah use to be da foreman. We go nighttime, rope cattle.

A: Keamoku is near where- Keamoku?

K: Ohh. Out here now. I tink dey--Richard Smart selling all dat place, eh.

A: I'm not familiar with Keamoku.

K: 'As only for Parker Ranch.

A: How big is Parker Ranch now? How many acres now?

K: 268,000 acre. [185,610 acres according to Thrum's Almanac, 1968.]

A: 268,000 acres. And what was it when you first started working for them? How many acres?

K: I don't know. Dat part I don't know. I tink Carter got dese. No odda manager like Carter.

A: Carter was a good manager, huh?

K: Ohhh, goood manager. He take care his men.

(Proprietor shows me where Keamoku is located in the Kona area on an old tax map dated December 1928, an excellent and very detailed map. He explains: This shows all of your old divisions. You see, the old Hawaiians when they divided the land--from the mountain to the ocean--this is the way they divided. You see all the divisions of areas are from the mountains to the ocean so that each one of the groups, in the old days, they always had some mountain land, some mid-land, and some ocean front, which is very intelligent. All the way around the island is divided that way.)

Good map, that.

A: Very. Anything else you can think of now?

K: Nope. No moah.

A: No more. Okay. Then I think maybe we can go to your sister's and see if she's there, okay?

END OF INTERVIEW

Transcribed and edited by Katherine B. Allen

Edited by Arthur Lindsey, 1979

GENEALOGY

William John Weston Lindsey m. ? James Fay (1790-?) m. 1828 or 1830
 (English hatmaker of London) Ka-ipu-kai-la'i-o-kapu-o-Kamehameha

I. Thomas John Weston Lindsey m. 9/1/1846 I. Mary Fay

2. William Miller Seymour Lindsey m.

Henrietta Kaluna Kainapau

3. John Kawananakoa Lindsey (1874-1947) m.

Grace Keohu Purdy

4. John Kuakini Lindsey (1892 -) m.

Mary Ann Lincoln

5. Lincoln (dec.)

5. Sarah m. Richard Taga

5. Eva m. Moses Kealamakia

5. Arthur (n.m.)

5. Martin (n.m.)

5. Grace m. Aloysius Spenser

5. Irene m. Harry Fergerstrom

5. Abigail m. Paul Akiu

5. Ella m. Sam Kimura

I. Angeline

I. Edwin

I. George Kyngston Lindsey m. Mary Fay Lindsey

2. John (1852-?)

2. Thomas m. Betsy Friedenbergl

2. Mary

2. Elizabeth m. Samuel F. Chillingworth

2. Angeline m. Charles Baker

2. James Fay m. Mahikulani Pamaiaulu

2. Emma m. Alfred Deverill

2. Edwin m. Kaupena Kauwe

2. Charles Robert m. Annie Hooululahui Pelio

2. William m. Becky ?

GENEALOGY

William Purdy m. Anna Waipa

I. Sam (dec.)

I. Mary (dec.)

I. Harry (dec.)

I. Robert Keala (dec.)

I. Keonona m. Archie Hapai (dec.)

I. Ikua (dec.)

I. Grace Keohu Purdy m. John Kawanunakoa Lindsey

Lindsey family history:

It has been recorded that Thomas John Weston Lindsey was born in the late 1820's and was a sea captain at the time he married Mary Fay on His British Majesty's ship Collingwood on September 1, 1846. They were married outside the three mile limit by the ship's chaplain, the Reverend Proctor. The commander of the ship was Rear Admiral George F. Seymour.

The reason they were married outside the three mile limit is because Kamehameha III instituted a policy that required white men who married Hawaiian girls of property to become naturalized citizens of the Kingdom of Hawaii. The regulation was intended to protect the girls' property and to prevent exploitation by transient foreigners.

Two letters from Captain Thomas Weston Lindsey to Foreign Minister Robert C. Wyllie attest to the fact that he was the master of the Hawaiian bark Don Quixote in February 1848.

The only child of Thomas Weston and Mary Lindsey was William Miller Seymour Lindsey. According to record, he was named William for his English grandfather; Miller for the British consul to Hawaii, General William Miller; Seymour for Rear Admiral George F. Seymour.

Thomas Lindsey's youngest brother, George Kyngston Lindsey, is believed to have been born about 1832 and arrived at Hawaii about 1850. He was evidently an artistic man who painted portraits of his wife and children, as well as a picture of the Collingwood, according to one report. George and Mary Lindsey had ten children between 1852 and 1869.

Subject Index

- 1 Family background: Lindsey and Kainapau
- 2 John Kawanānākoa Lindsey; Grace Keohu Purdy
William and Anna (Waipa) Purdy
Ikua Purdy and Eben Low
- 3 Ikua Purdy, world champion roper, 1908
Jack and Eben Low; Archie Kaaua
The Purdy family
Archie and Keonona Hapai
- 4 The Purdy family
- 5 Bill Lincoln; Mary Ann Lincoln
John Kuakini Lindsey's family
- 6 The Lindsey family
Aloysius Spenser of Maui
Harry Fergerstrom; Paul Akiu
- 7 The Lindsey family
Sam Kimura
The Lawrence Lincoln family
- 8 Puuhue Ranch
Lindsey family history
Thomas Weston Lindsey marries Mary Fay
William Miller Seymour Lindsey
- 9 Lindsey family genealogy
George Kyngston Lindsey

- 10 Lindsey family history
 Kuakini's education
 Alfred Carter and Parker Ranch
 Paul Jarrett, Parker Ranch manager
 Richard Smart; Thelma Parker Smart
- 11 Hartwell Carter
 Lindsey family migration:
 Edward, Sam and Robert Lindsey
 Annie Sims; Mary Kempster
- 12 George Sims
 Parker family genealogy
 Kuakini's history; Makalahao
- 13 Kuakini the cowboy
 Qualifications of a cowboy
 Kahuku Ranch owners: A. W. Carter
 Colonel Norris; Charles Macomber
 Fred Rice at Kahuku Ranch
 Kuakini goes to Kahuku Ranch
 Horseback trip to Kahuku Ranch
- 14 Kahuku Ranch failure
 W. H. Shipman; Sam Kauhane
 A. W. Carter sells Kahuku Ranch
 James Glover; the Damons; Fred Rice

- 14 Kuakini goes to San Francisco
- 15 San Francisco Exposition, 1915
World War I; Ingram M. Stainback
Kuakini's history and employment
- 16 Cattle drives to Kawaihae
Cowboy's salary; living conditions
- 17 Waimea horse races; roping contests
- 18 Richard Penhallow, Parker Ranch manager
Kuakini, retired, returns to Parker Ranch
Kukaiau Ranch; Norman Greenwell
- 19 Kuakini, Kukaiau Ranch foreman
Richard Penhallow, Kukaiau Ranch manager
Louie Correa, Kukaiau Ranch foreman
Anecdote: Kukaiau Ranch cowboys
William Andrade
- 20 William Moran
Parker Ranch
Kuakini goes to the mainland, 1962
Bing Crosby's job offer
- 21 World War II; Charles Lindsey
- 22 Moonlight cattle roping at Keamoku
- 23 Parker Ranch and A. W. Carter
Location of Keamoku; ahupua'a explained

THE WATUMULL FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

In May 1971, the Watumull Foundation initiated an Oral History Project.

The project was formally begun on June 24, 1971 when Katherine B. Allen was selected to interview kamaainas and longtime residents of Hawaii in order to preserve their experiences and knowledge. In July, Lynda Mair joined the staff as an interviewer.

During the next seventeen months, eighty-eight persons were interviewed. Most of these taped oral histories were transcribed by November 30, 1972.

Then the project was suspended indefinitely due to the retirement of the foundation's chairman, Ellen Jensen Watumull.

In February 1979, the project was reactivated and Miss Allen was recalled as director and editor.

Three sets of the final transcripts, typed on acid-free Permalife Bond paper, have been deposited respectively in the Archives of Hawaii, the Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii, and the Cooke Library at Punahou School.